

ABSTRACT

G-IB-185

MASON-DIXON LINE: MILESTONE NO. ---(187)

1767 (mound), 1902 (monument)

Salisbury, Pennsylvania vicinity

Public/private

Milestone No. ---(187) and its small mound of earth mark Mason and Dixon's 172nd mile west of the northeast corner of Maryland, the beginning of their West Line, the English provincial boundary later known as the Mason-Dixon Line, famous for its historical impact and innovative survey methods. The monument is a very plain dressed marble post with a low pyramidal top, quarried and carved in Cockeysville, Maryland; is in good condition, unaltered, firmly in place but out of plumb (leaning to the southeast); measures 10 inches square by about 13 inches high above the mound; and is embellished only by the capital letter P on the north side facing Pennsylvania, M on the south side facing Maryland, the year 1767 on the east side (when/^{this site}originally surveyed and marked), and 1902 on the west side (^{the monument was}when/~~added to~~ the center of the mound during the 1900-03 Resurvey of the Maryland-Pennsylvania boundary. The mound is also in good condition, is presumed to be the remains of the original cairn, with the monument replacing the original wood post long since gone. Although not measured at the site, it appears/^{from photos}to be about 10 feet in diameter by about 1½ feet high at the center. On the national and state levels, No. ---(187) and its mound are significant primarily as being among the thematic group series of some 248 markers still visually defining the West Line. Locally, as among the 42 markers along the present Garrett/Somerset-Fayette county boundary, they are also significant symbolically for their identifiable relationship to the colonial and Civil War heritage of these counties.

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME BOUNDARY MARKERS ALONG THE MASON-DIXON LINE (THEMATIC GROUP)

HISTORIC (Mason and Dixon's) WEST LINE,

AND/OR COMMON

MASON-DIXON LINE: MILESTONE NO. --- (1900-03 Resurvey Monument No. 187)

2 LOCATION (not for publication)

STREET & NUMBER off the south side of Salisbury-Pocahontas Road (LR-55002)

CITY, TOWN

Salisbury

☒

VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

MD: 6 / PA: 12

STATE

Pennsylvania

COUNTY

MD: Garrett / PA: Somerset

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

OWNERSHIP

STATUS N/A

PRESENT USE

☐ DISTRICT☒ PUBLIC☐ OCCUPIED☐ AGRICULTURE☐ MUSEUM☐ BUILDING(S)☐ PRIVATE☐ UNOCCUPIED☐ COMMERCIAL☐ PARK☐ STRUCTURE☐ BOTH☐ WORK IN PROGRESS☐ EDUCATIONAL☐ PRIVATE RESIDENCE☐ SITE

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

ACCESSIBLE

☐ ENTERTAINMENT☐ RELIGIOUS☒ OBJECT☐ IN PROCESS☒ YES: RESTRICTED☐ GOVERNMENT☐ SCIENTIFIC☐ BEING CONSIDERED☐ YES: UNRESTRICTED☐ INDUSTRIAL☐ TRANSPORTATION☒ not applicable☐ NO☐ MILITARY☒ OTHER: state boundary marker**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY** (monument and mound only; see Thematic Group NR nomination form and surrounding property ownership list)

NAME

State of Maryland/Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Telephone #:

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

STATE, zip code

VICINITY OF

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION (see Thematic Group NR nomination form and surrounding property ownership list)

COURTHOUSE

REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Liber #:

Folio #:

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

STATE

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS (also see Thematic Group NR nomination form)

TITLE

Garrett County Historic Sites Inventory

DATE

G-IB-185 entered 9/4/81

☐ FEDERAL ☒ STATE ☐ COUNTY ☐ LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

Maryland Historical Trust

CITY, TOWN

Annapolis

STATE

Maryland 21401

7 DESCRIPTION

Survey No. G-IB-185

CONDITION

☐ EXCELLENT
☒ GOOD (monument & mound)
☐ FAIR

☐ DETERIORATED
☐ RUINS
☐ UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE

(monument & mound)
☒ UNALTERED
☐ ALTERED

CHECK ONE

☒ ORIGINAL SITE mound
☐ MOVED DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Milestone No. --- (187) and its small mound of earth mark Mason and Dixon's 172nd mile west of the northeast corner of Maryland, the beginning of their 230.228-mile West Line. The monument was a new dressed Cockeysville marble post with a low pyramidal top when added to the center of the mound in 1902 during the 1900-03 Resurvey of the Maryland-Pennsylvania boundary. It is in good condition, unaltered, firmly in place but ^{leaning to the southeast} out of plumb; measures 10 inches square by about 13 inches high above the mound; and is embellished only by the capital letter P on the north side facing Pennsylvania, M on the south side facing Maryland, the year 1767 on the east side (when originally surveyed and marked), and 1902 on the west side. The mound, also in ^{unaltered} good condition, was not measured at the time of the site survey but appears from photos to be about 10 feet in diameter by about 1½ feet high at the center, and is believed to be the remains of an original cairn of 1767.

The area here is ^{the} sparsely settled, rumpled foothills of Meadow Mountain about 1½ miles to the west, with several large farms surrounded by dense woodlands. The site is within Election District 9 of Garrett Count, MD, and Greenville Township of Somerset County, PA; about 3½ miles southeast of the town of Salisbury, PA; about 3½ miles northeast of the scattered settlement of Piney Grove, MD; about 3000 feet south of the Salisbury-Pocahontas Road (LR-55002); at a point about 40 feet south of the new gas pipeline under construction and the north edge of a dense hemlock-deciduous woods, in a low-lying swail close ^(just north of) to a tributary of Piney Creek, in a mossy bower encircled by hemlocks (whose roots have probably been the cause of pushing the monument out of plumb).

The monument, identical to 65 other monuments of 1902 set west of Sideling Hill to visually reestablish the Maryland-Pennsylvania boundary, was quarried and carved in Cockeysville, MD, of a white, fine-grained marble called saccharoidal dolomite or magnesian limestone; was originally cut about 10 inches square by about 4½ feet long, intended for setting about 1½ feet above ground with the remaining 3 feet for setting into the ground, thus eliminating the need for a concrete foundation. The letters and numbers are blocky, V-sunk without serifs, and are horizontally aligned as a band around the stone near the top. These, and the top planes are clear and intact, but there are chips along all vertical edges and the top corners, and a small hole in the apex. **CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY** The north and east sides are also half-covered by moss, from the continuous dampness. (see Thematic Group NR nomination form for further descriptions of the 1902 stones and original mounds)

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD		AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY) boundary surveying	
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION			

SPECIFIC DATES 1767 (mound) ~~1767 (mound)~~ Charles Mason and Jeremiah Dixon
 1902 (monument) SURVEYORS

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Milestone No. --- (187) and its small mound of earth are significant on the / national and state levels primarily as being among the thematic group series of the some 248 markers still visually defining Mason and Dixon's West Line, the 230.228-mile provincial boundary later known as the Mason-Dixon Line, famous for its historical impact and innovative survey methods. This site was surveyed and originally marked with a cairn in 1767, and the new Cockeysville marble monument added to the center of the mound in 1902 during the 1900-03 Resurvey of the Maryland-Pennsylvania boundary. Locally, as being among the 42 markers along the present Garrett/Somerset-Fayette county boundary, No. --- (187) and the mound are also significant symbolically for their identifiable relationship to the colonial and Civil War heritage of these counties.

HISTORY AND SUPPORT (see Thematic Group National Register nomination form)

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

(see Thematic Group National Register nomination form)

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATAACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY less than one acreQuadrangle name: Avilton (Maryland-Pennsylvania), USGS 7.5 minute series
(topographic), 1947 photorev. 1974, scale 1:24000

UTM reference: zone 17, easting 66910, northing 439860

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION N/A

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE Maryland COUNTY Garrett

STATE Pennsylvania COUNTY Somerset

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Alice Martin (volunteer, Mason and Dixon's West Line boundary marker surveyor)

ORGANIZATION

Maryland Historical Trust and Maryland Geological Survey

DATE

10/12/81 (site surveyed)

STREET & NUMBER

14308 Mount Avenue

TELEPHONE

(301) 472-2128

CITY OR TOWN

Phoenix

STATE

Maryland 21131

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 267-1438

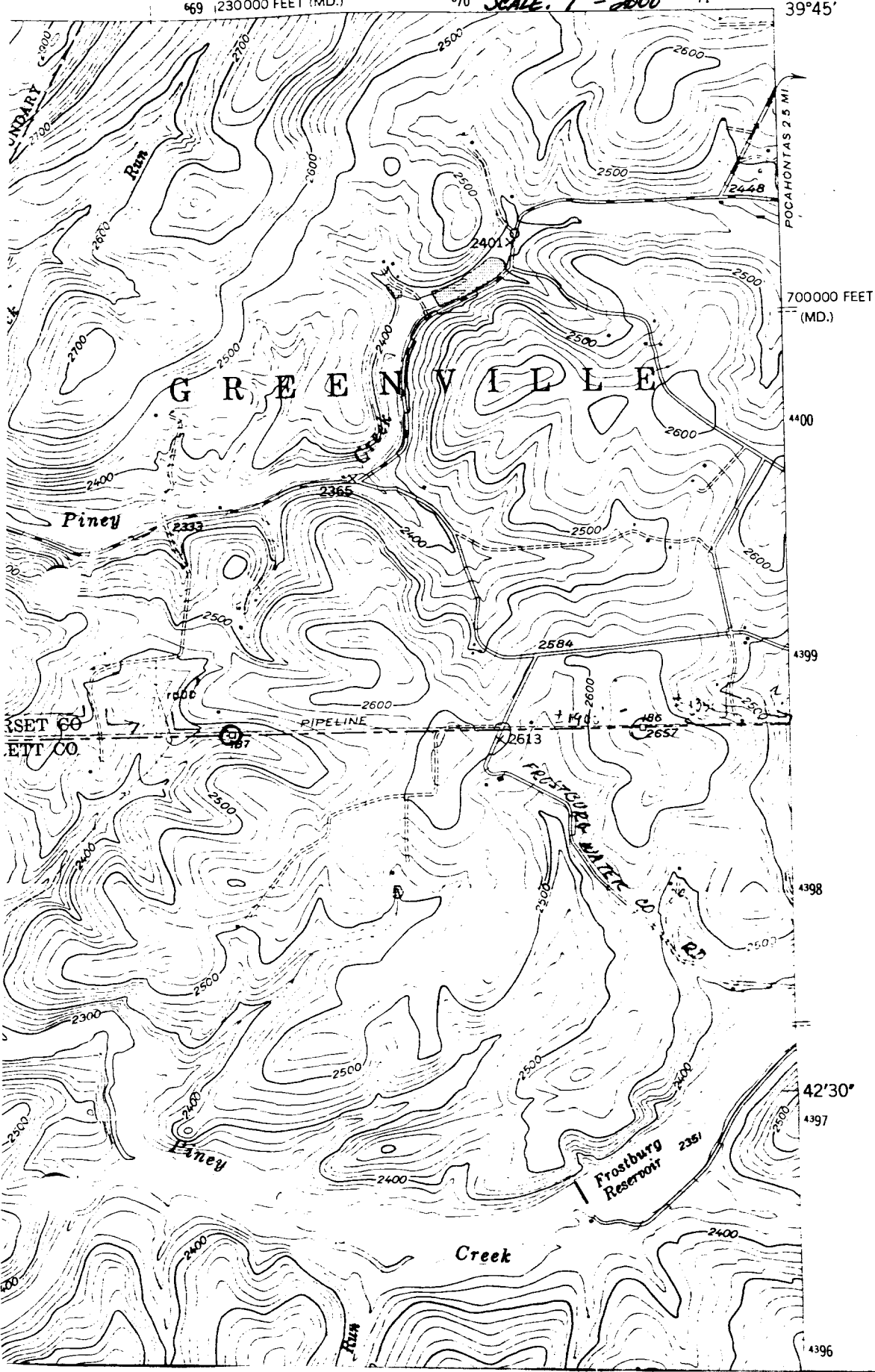
6-IB-185
MASON & DIXON WEST LINE (MD-PA) BOUNDARY MARKERS:
MILE.



AVILTON QUADRANGLE
MARYLAND-PENNSYLVANIA
USGS 7.5 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)
1947 PHOTO REV. 1974
SCALE: 1" = 2000'

5263 IV SW
(WITTENBERG, MD.)
GARRETT CO. (27)

NIA
JRCS
Y





1940

W-143-155

MASON EDINON WEST LINE MILESTONE --- (187)
STONE MONUMENT (1902)

SW CORNER (1902/41)

PHOTO ALICE MARTIN 10/125 191143. 50



M.H.

G-IB-185

MASON & SON WEST LINE MILESTONE - (187)
STONE NEAR WEST (187) IS SMALL PIECE OF
EARTH MARKING APPROX MID 172nd MILE
WEST OF NE CORNER SE HALL AND
NE CORNER (176) (3)

TRUCK ALICE MARTIN 19/12/87 (1987-43-12)